

c. Amendments to Claims

1. (Original) A manufacture, comprising:

a preform having a central core, a cladding layer, and an overcladding layer; the core, cladding layer, and overcladding layer each comprising silica-glass, the preform
5 having an OD variation of 10^{-1} percent or less at one longitudinal position.

2. (Original) The manufacture of claim 1, wherein the length and outer diameter of the preform are at least as great as 1200 mm and 90 mm, respectively.

10 3. (Original) The manufacture of claim 1, wherein the overcladding layer has less than 2 parts per million of hydroxide impurities.

4. (Original) The manufacture of claim 3, wherein the overcladding layer has less than .2 parts per million of hydroxide impurities.

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5. (Original) The manufacture of claim 2, wherein the preform has an OD variation of 5×10^{-2} percent or less at one longitudinal position.

6. (Original) The manufacture of claim 1, wherein the inner diameter of the
20 overcladding layer varies by less than 1 percent over the length of the preform.